



Minutes
The Board of Education
Molalla River School District

May 15, 2025

I. WORK SESSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Amy McNeil called the work session meeting back to order at 7:30pm.

Board members attending: Chair Amy McNeil, Vice Chair Craig Loughridge, Rob Cummings, Linda Eskridge, Terrie Stafford, and Neal Lucht. Absent: Mark Lucht

MRSD Administrators attending: Andy Campbell/Chief Financial Officer, Dr. David Atherton/Principal Molalla High School, Dr. Tony Mann/Superintendent, and Lauree Nelzen/Executive Administrative Assistant

Also present: Jimmy Lanahan

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

B. CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

C. ACTION ITEMS

1. Recommendation for Approval – Out of State Field Trips

There was discussion regarding the two out of state field trips that require Board approval. One is for the middle school FBLA club to attend Nationals in California, and one for the High School band and choir to travel to California for a tour/sightseeing. Mr. Neal Lucht made a motion to approve the two requests. Vice Chair Loughridge seconded the motion. Mr. Neal Lucht asked that the policy requiring board approval go back to the policy committee for a review on whether or not it needs board approval. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by a hand vote. The Board asked the groups come back and share their trips with the Board.

D. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. AI in the District Presentation

Mr. Chris Shaw, Director of Technology, gave a presentation on Artificial Intelligence (AI). He stated he is working on board policies to present to the policy committee. He explained what AI is and isn't, what it can and cannot do. Mr. Shaw stated the effects it is already having and will have on our schools and how we manage that as a District. He stated the ethical considerations in education is the focus of the new policies: how we teach students and staff how to use it without losing their voices. There was discussion among the board members about the new policies and framework, and how they will be enforced by administration. There was also discussion about internet safety and teaching ethics.

2. Graduation Rate presentation

Dr. David Atherton gave a presentation on Class of 2024 and 2025 graduation rates of Molalla High School. He explained how the tracking of the 4 and 5 year cohort data was not accurate due to different factors. He stated the student success coach Ms. Jenn Hinkle and High School Registrar Ms.

Brooklyn Dieli are now tracking graduates once they leave Molalla. He explained how re-engaging students in education through alternative pathways with different partners like CCC has helped create better graduation rates. There was discussion about the At-A-Glance School profiles released by Oregon Department of Education every year, the definitions, and challenges. He reviewed the last 3 years of graduation rates, showing the stability since the pandemic, and what the grad rates should have been. He reviewed the process changes the team is implementing and what reporting will look like moving forward.

E. BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Eskridge commented on school boards and recent legislation. Vice Chair Loughridge commented on using calculators when he was in school.

F. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- June 12th budget hearing/business meeting at 6:45pm at the District Office
- June 25th policy committee meeting at 7pm at the District Office
- June 26th work session at 7pm at the District Office

There was discussion regarding graduation on Saturday June 7 at 1pm at Burghardt Stadium, weather permitting. Board members who plan to attend will be asked to participate in rehearsals Thursday and Friday June 5 and 6 from 10am-12pm. Also, tomorrow night May 16 is the Burghardt Athletic Fundraiser kick off at 7pm at the stadium.

G. ADJOURN

Chair McNeil adjourned the meeting at 9:11pm.

Chair

Superintendent

Board Secretary